

Liberal Arts College  
Public Lecture



# The Invention of the Alphabet and the Democratization of Culture



P R O F E S S O R F R A N K M O O R E C R O S S  
H A R V A R D U N I V E R S I T Y

Dr. Frank Moore Cross is Hancock Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Languages, Emeritus, at Harvard University. He was educated at Maryville College, McCormick Theological Seminary, and Johns Hopkins University. His many publications include *The Ancient Library of Qumran and Modern Biblical Studies* (1958), *Scrolls from the Wilderness of the Dead Sea* (1965), *The Origin and Early Evolution of the Alphabet* (1967), *Canaanite Myth and Hebrew Epic* (1973), *Qumran and the History of the Biblical Text* (with Shemaryahu Talmon, 1975), and *Studies in Ancient Yahwistic Poetry* (with David N. Freedman, 1975).

Professor Cross has also edited and contributed to several other volumes on Near-Eastern archeology and biblical studies. He is past president of the Biblical Colloquium, The Society of Biblical Literature, and the American Schools of Oriental Research, and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Professor Cross holds honorary doctorates from Maryville College, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, The University of Lethbridge, and Miami University. During his distinguished career he has received awards and prizes such as the Percia Schimmel Prize of The Israel Museum, the William Foxwell Albright Award from the Society of Biblical Literature, and the Medalla de Honor de la Universidad Complutense, University of Madrid.

Since 1953 he has been a member of the International Committee for Editing the Dead Sea Scrolls, and has directed a number of important archeological excavations in the Near East and North Africa. He served as editor of the *Harvard Semitic Monographs* until 1992, and continues to be trustee of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center and the Dead Sea Scroll Foundation.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7TH, 1993, 8:30 P.M.

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